

MINUTES

Seattle Human Rights Commission Meeting

Thursday, June 2, 2011, 6:00–8:00 p.m.

City Hall - Boards and Commissions Room

Commissioners Present: Jessica Andrade, Merri Ann Osborne, Mica Powers, Roslyn Solomon, Christopher Stearns, Jennifer Yogi

Commissioner Regrets: Jesse Aspuria, Damien Carter, Nika Dahlbacka, Andrew Lewis, Joshua Marshall, Marty Penner, Mike Peters, Keith Toussaint

SOCR Staff Present: JT Delich

Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Discussion:

- Commission participation: Commissioners who can participate must make it a priority; those who cannot may consider resigning. Roslyn Solomon will follow up.
- Concerns were expressed about inconsistent task force participation
- Candidates for vacant Commission seats shall be invited to a meeting
- The process by which we check in is at issue. Each meeting we need to check in.
- Suggestion was made to redesign task force goals. Smaller group might be more successful. What do we do with those on the task for who are not participating?
- Reset expectations of what we are doing as a group, and individually
- 16 Commissioners; look at 3 work plans, bylaws; motivation by issue
- ACTION ITEM: Send SHRC requirements to all commissioners: Go to minutes and evaluate meeting attendance: Question whether or how commissioners are able to participate fully. Also who has been absent from task force meetings
- A suggestion was made to revise the bylaws so that two consecutive absents is deemed a resignation

- Suggestion: review work plan that was submitted to City Council
- Law & Policy: human rights tool; criminal records, resolution rights of children
- Police Accountability: best practices; local review of OPA; report of findings
- Food & Exercise: impediments to healthy food; link to UDHR #25; Recommendations to improve access
- Suggestion: start over and reassign individuals to task forces they are excited about participating in
- Suggestion: focus on about 3 things, or entire commission will focus on 1 thing, then the second, then lastly the third thing.
- Suggestion use HRC meeting as working meetings
- Discussion of commissioner responsibility of participation in task forces, and work plan; ask can you commit to actively participation in achieving tasks
- SOCR may take a more active role in addressing participation
- Identification of absentees, and will call each who is absent to explain
- Discussion of July a working meeting; divide into work groups and re-evaluate goals.

ACTION ITEMS

- Post openings on website
 - Put bylaws on website
 - Update minutes
 - Resumes that have been waiting for review, have not been reviewed. Check with FYM about process of resume review
 - Listing of commissioners by term
- Discussion of Council Member Harrell's offer to be a part of the round table on KCTS

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.